Dear Valued Member:

While the summer months are typically a time for vacation and a slower pace, the Greater Baltimore Committee (GBC) was very busy during the past several months.

This activity included staff members fully settling back into office work, hosting a number of well-attended virtual Newsmaker Speaker events and committee meetings, and focusing on our Operational Priority to advocate and advance a racial equity and social justice agenda.

While the COVID-19 pandemic took an unfortunate turn for the worse over the summer, I am hopeful that we will be able to return to "in person" meetings, events and programs sometime in the fall.

The GBC was also very active on the news media front over the summer, a period that sometimes can see fewer media inquiries and press coverage for the GBC.

The GBC frequently receives requests from local and national media outlets to provide insight, comment or perspective on a pressing topic or issue.

Reporters, editors and producers solicit our input because the GBC provides the unique private sector voice and enjoys a reputation for providing informed perspectives on important issues facing the state, region and city. The GBC also periodically issues Media Releases and Media Alerts to announce major initiatives and positions on topical issues so journalists are made aware of these and can report on them.
Also, as part of the ongoing effort to continue to be a respected and influential voice in the region, I publish commentaries in The Daily Record, Baltimore Business Journal, The Baltimore Sun and other publications, as well as provide a monthly commentary for WBAL News Radio 1090 AM/101.5 FM.

To ensure that you and other members are kept informed of the GBC's presence in the media, we are pleased to provide you with this edition of GBC In The News.

As always, I welcome your feedback and questions.

Be safe, stay healthy, get vaccinated and remain positive.

Sincerely,

Donald C. Fry
President & CEO

July 2021

Don Fry Commentary on WBAL NewsRadio
7/14 -- The Need for Infrastructure Investment
When we talk about infrastructure, we are referring to the nation's airports, railways, roads, bridges, electrical grids and more, including broadband, which some call the "new electricity."
Read the commentary.

Media Coverage

7/14 Baltimore Business Journal: 'It's bittersweet': Why Howard Bank is selling and what it means for Baltimore Donald C. Fry, President and CEO of the Greater Baltimore Committee, said in a statement that F.N.B.'s acquisition of Howard demonstrates how Maryland is a "great place to launch and grow a company that is attractive to investors."
Read the article.

7/16 Baltimore Business Journal: Broker: 'Developer with ties to Baltimore' could take ownership of Harborplace "A new owner with local roots, a long-term commitment and a transformational vision would provide an excellent opportunity to take the tarnish off this jewel," said GBC President and CEO Donald C. Fry.
Read article.

7/26 Baltimore Sun: Infrastructure deal facing 'legitimate problems,' Cardin says. The money would fund Maryland transit, broadband needs. The ongoing negotiations over a nearly $1 trillion investment in the nation's railroads, roads, bridges, ports and broadband internet — and how Maryland might spend federal dollars it receives — took center stage in a virtual summit hosted by the Greater Baltimore Committee.
Read the article.

Scott have discussed a possible revival of the Red Line project. By withdrawing from the project, Maryland forfeited $900M in federal funding. The 14-mile line had been in planning for years, and the state had already spent close to $300M. Read the article.

7/28 MSN: A veteran doctor shares 4 lessons to strengthen US public health
Read this excerpt from "LIFELINES: A Doctor's Journey in the Fight for Public Health by Leana Wen." Published by Metropolitan Books, an imprint from Henry Holt and Company. Copyright © 2021 by Leana Wen. Read the excerpt.

August 2021

Don Fry Commentary on WBAL NewsRadio
8/30 Maryland's rankings when it comes to business [Audio]
Greater Baltimore Committee President and CEO Donald C. Fry talks about the state, impacts on businesses and questions how Maryland can improve. Listen to the commentary.

Don Fry Commentary in The Daily Record
8/30 Continued population loss for Baltimore is troubling and unacceptable
The decades-long trend of residents leaving the city -- and that loss not being offset by enough new residents moving in the city -- is not only troubling but unacceptable. Read the commentary.

Media Coverage

Donald C. Fry, President and CEO of the Greater Baltimore Committee, said the inclusion of the Red Line as a part of the bipartisan infrastructure bill "is a tremendous move forward in advancing transit in the Baltimore region." Read the article.

8/12 Baltimore Magazine: Harborplace Remains in Receivership. Has the Ship Sailed for the Twin Pavilions?
Several city officials, including Colin Tarbert, the President of the BDC, and Don Fry of the GBC, said acquiring pavilions through condemnation or eminent domain has been discussed, but neither avenue is under consideration. Read the article.

8/13 The Daily Record: Census shows US is diversifying, Maryland growing, Baltimore shrinking
"This is an important time for the business community and city stakeholders to establish a sustainable strategy to grow the population and move forward with a sense of urgency," said Donald C. Fry, President and CEO of the Greater Baltimore Committee. Read the article.

8/13 Baltimore Business Journal: Baltimore's population declined 5.7% during past decade
GBC President and CEO Don Fry called on the business community and city stakeholders to come together and develop a long-term strategy for getting
Baltimore's population growing again.  
**Read the article.**

### 8/13 Baltimore Sun: Less than half of Md. population is white, reflecting nation's increasing diversity, census shows
The city's population loss is "an urgent issue that must be given the significant thought and the resources that are required to turn the tide," said Don Fry, President and CEO of the Greater Baltimore Committee.  
**Read the article.**

### 8/13 Maryland Matters: Analysis: The Census Data and the Political Reordering to Come in Md.
Baltimore wasn't the only Maryland jurisdiction to see significant population losses. But the latest numbers did produce a significant degree of handwringing in the city.  
**Read the article.**

### 8/13 WBAL NewsRadio: Census data: Baltimore population shrinks, less than half of Md. identifies as white [Audio]
WBAL's Robert Lang talks to Don Fry, President and CEO of the Greater Baltimore Committee about Baltimore City's declining population.  
**Listen to the audio.**

### 8/16 Baltimore Sun: Some Baltimore businesses cancel fall plans to bring workers back to offices, others reassessing as COVID numbers rise
Some employers have put plans on pause, others are forging ahead, and more still are keeping their options open as they monitor the spread of the delta variant.  
**Read the article.**

### 8/16 WBAL-TV 11: 2020 U.S. Census shows more diversity nationwide, lowest Baltimore residency in century
GBC President and CEO Don Fry is calling on the city's business community to get involved. He said everyone could do a better job in promoting the city.  
**Read the article.**

### 8/25 Baltimore Sun: FDA's full approval of Pfizer's COVID vaccine sets stage for more Maryland workplace, school mandates
Vaccine mandates already exist in Maryland hospitals, in skilled nursing facilities and for state employees. But elsewhere, the requirements have been set in piecemeal fashion, with some companies and businesses imposing mandates and many others not.  
**Read the article.**

### 8/26 Baltimore Business Journal: Freeman Hrabowski to step down after 30 years leading UMBC
Donald C. Fry, President and CEO of the Greater Baltimore Committee, described Hrabowski's tenure as a leader in the higher education sector as "nothing short of remarkable."  
**Read the article.**

### 8/26 Daily Record: Reaction to announcement of Hrabowski's retirement
"Freeman Hrabowski has been nothing short of remarkable in his tenure as President of UMBC and as an academic leader in the State of Maryland and the nation."—GBC President and CEO Donald C. Fry  
**Read the article.**
8/30 Baltimore Business Journal: UMMS CEO: Now is the time for employers to make decisions about vaccine mandates
Dr. Mohan Suntha said the combination of increased cases of COVID-19 and the flu could present a "dramatic challenge" when it comes to the availability of medical resources.
Read the article.

8/30 Daily Record: Employment lawyer lays out considerations for workplace vaccination policies
Harriet E. Cooperman, a partner at Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr LLP and a veteran employment attorney, laid out several steps employers should take when developing their vaccine policies during a Greater Baltimore Committee virtual event.
Read the article.

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